The Nikos Kazantzakis Chair

CENTER FOR MODERN GREEK STUDIES
THE NIKOS KAZANTZAKIS CHAIR
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

Μαντατοφόρος

ΕΔΡΑ ΝΙΚΟΥ ΚΑΖΑΝΤΖΑΚΗ

MODERN GREEK STUDIES FOUNDATION

Summer 1998 MANDATOPHOROS: "BEARER OF NEWS, MESSENGER" Vol. 13, No. 2

The MGSF's Third Exhibition and Sale of Northern California Artists of Hellenic Ancestry, September 18 & 19, 1998

As those of you who attended our last Art Show in 1996 know, the fundraising event in support of the Center for Modern Greek Studies was a great success with over three hundred guests attending the opening night reception. This year's event promises to be even better. On exhibit will be a selection of fine paintings, sculptures and photographs by artists of Hellenic ancestry from Northern California. The event will be held at the Seven Hills Conference Center at San Francisco State University on Friday evening, September 18 and all day on Saturday, September 19, 1998.

As we have done in the past, we are planning a gala reception/buffet to launch the exhibition on Friday evening. This year we are happy to announce that the well-known Bay Area artist, the late **Jean Varda**, will be our special artist, honored for his contributions to the local art scene. A special exhibit of Varda's works will be showcased. We intend this to be an aesthetic and spiritually uplifting experience for all participants. For more information about the Art Show, please contact **Alexis Laris**, Art Show Chairperson, at (510) 428- 9280 or **Robert Critcher**, Office Manager, at The Center for Modern Greek Studies at (415) 338-1892.



"The Three Muses" Benefit Concert. The Minoan Dancers of Marin County. *(article on pg. 3)*

Recent Gifts and Donations to the Center for Modern Greek Studies

In April, 1998 the **Greek Ministry of Culture and Science** gave a generous donation of $10,000 to the Center for Modern Greek Studies/Nikos Kazantzakis Chair at San Francisco State University. The Greek Ambassador to the U.S., **Mr. Loucas Tsilas**, commented on behalf of the Ministry and said that the gift was granted in recognition of the Center Director's efforts in promoting the Greek language, its culture and traditions. The Center wishes to thank **Mr. Evangelos Venizelos**, the Greek Minister of Culture and Science, and Ambassador Tsilas for their steadfast support of the Center and its vision.

In January, 1998 the Center was the recipient of another gift of $10,000 from the **ELIOS Foundation,** a share of the proceeds from the successful Hellenic Charity Ball held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in San Francisco on October 11, 1997. The Center thanks ELIOS president Fanis Economides and the members of his board for their support.

In July a check for $15,000 was presented to the San Francisco State University Foundation bringing the Center's Endowment Fund to $445,000. This check represents a number of generous donations which include: **the National Ahepa Educational Foundation** in memory of **Gus Aretos** and from the **Golden Gate District #21 Daughters of Penelope**, the proceeds from the February "Three Muses" Benefit Concert), a gift from the newly organized **Friends of the Center for Modern Greek Studies**, and a donation from the **MGSF Board of Directors**. The Center wishes to thank everyone who made this major gift possible.

Center for Modern Greek Studies Courses, 1998-1999

Fall Semester 1998

MGS 150 **Modern Greek I**
Instructor: **Professor Klironomos**
Place: **HUM 283**
Time: **MW 2:10-3:25 pm**

Introduction to the Modern Greek language. Basic oral expression, listening comprehension, reading, and writing will be emphasized. This is a GE course.

MGS 152 **Modern Greek Conversation**
Instructor: **Ms. Chiotis**
Place: **T.B.A.**
Time: **Tues. 6:00-8:00 pm**

A new course for the advanced beginner, offered through the College of Extended Learning, and geared toward practical everyday language usage.

WCL 500 **Poeticizing The "Ethnos"**
Instructor: **Professor Klironomos**
Place: **HUM 129**
Time: **Mon. 6:00-9:00 pm**

This course will deal with nationalism and poetry in Greece and in transnational perspective. Poets to be studied include Whitman, Yeats, Seferis, Elytis, Ritsos, and Boland.

Spring Semester 1999

MGS/GRE 151 **Modern Greeek II**
Instructor: **Professor Klironomos**

A continuation of Modern Greek I. Accelerated emphasis on conversation, reading, and writing in contemporary Greek. This is a GE course.

MGS 152 **Modern Greek Conversation**
Instructor: **Staff**

A new course for the advanced beginner, offered through the College of Extended Learning, and geared toward practical language usage.

HIST 349 **Greece and the Balkans**
Instructor: **Mr. Mavromihalis**

An introductory course on the history of Modern Greece and the Balkans from the 17th to the 20th century.

WCL 425 **Kazantzakis**
Instructor: **Professor Klironomos**

This course will focus on the major works of Nikos Kazantzakis. Texts to be studied include: *Report to Greco, Zorba the Greek, Last Temptation of Christ,* and *The Greek Passion.*

Registration Information

College of Extended Learning

Any adult in the community may enroll in University courses without being formally admitted to the University. To find out details of enrollment, please contact SFSU College of Extended Learning at (415) 338-1373.

Eldercollege

This program is also for those over 60. Although it is not possible to earn a degree through Eldercollege, you may audit regular classes on a space available basis. You do not need to meet the standard requirements for admission to be a part of this program. For more information call the College of Extended Learning at (415) 338-1373.

Over-Sixty Program

Persons 60 years of age or older can earn a Baccalaureate or Master's degree at the University without payment of admission or registration fees. You only pay a $5.00 fee for each term you attend. To be eligible for the program, you must:

1) be at least 60 years of age

2) have been a California resident for a full year immediately preceding your enrollment

3) meet the standard requirements for admission to the University. For more information call the Admissions office at (415) 338-2017.



Musical Director George Liviakis and Vicki Liviakis

"The Three Muses" Benefit Concert At San Francisco State University A Huge Success!

Special thanks to all of you who helped make last spring's "The Three Muses" Concert on February 22, 1998 to benefit **The Center for Modern Greek Studies**, a huge success. Nearly 700 people attended the concert, making the event a memorable cultural and artistic experience within the Bay Area Hellenic community. The program featured splendid musical performances of compositions by classical European and contemporary Greek composers, such as **Maurice Ravel**, **Mikis Theodorakis**, **Manos Hadzidakis and Stavros Xarxakos**. The artistic vision and musical arrangements provided by Musical Director **George Liviakis** and Conductor **Dr. Tikey Zes** were brilliant. The concert showcased eloquent and talented performances by Bay Area opera soloists **Anne Banks** and **Layna Chianakas Haddad,** tenor soloist **Gus Gundunas**, and the sixty-member Festival Chorus and Orchestra. The concert featured Cantades sung by an all male choir and accompanied by fifteen mandolins and guitars. The finale was a Cretan suite of songs and dances that combined the orchestra, chorus, and the award-winning **Minoan Dancers** of Marin, CA. Poetry by Greek poet Nobel laureates **Odysseas Elytis** and **George Seferis** was read by **Professor Martha Klironomos**, Director of the Center. Introductions and comments were provided by Master of Ceremonies, **Dr. Peter Haikalis,** President of the Modern Greek Studies Foundation, and TV personality **Vicki Liviakis.** Co-chairs of the event are **Dr. John and Genevieve Cladis**. Publicity and public relations were undertaken by **Cathie Banks** and **Titika Koplos**. **Harry Costantopoulos** and the **SFSU Creative Arts Staff** assisted with lighting and sound.

The **Sixth District of the Pan-Cretan Association of America**, hosted the closing reception, organized by **Roxanne Koston**, for the wall-to-wall crowd that attended this successful fund-raiser.



Dr. Tikey Zes, Dr. John Cladis, and Benefit Concert participants

Hellenic Diaspora Lecture Series Professor Gregory Jusdanis, Ohio State University, to Speak on the Hellenic Diaspora, October 2, 1998

Professor Gregory Jusdanis, Ohio State University, a specialist on Modern Greek literature, will launch the first of a series of lectures on the subject of the Hellenic Diaspora by visiting scholars to the Center for Modern Greek Studies on Friday, October 2, 1998 at 7: 30 pm. at the SFSU campus. Professor Jusdanis' talk will address key issues concerning Greek Americans, the Hellenic diaspora and globalization. What can the meaning of Hellenism be today for the descendants of the early Greek immigrants to the U.S., removed by distance as well as time from Greece? Are Greek Americans in the third and fourth generation connected in any meaningful way to Greece or to Hellenism? What bonds do they share with other Greek communities in Canada, Australia, Germany or elsewhere? What can it possibly mean to call oneself a Greek in today's multicultural and assimilating America? Professor Gregory Jusdanis will consider these questions in his attempt to examine the significance of Hellenism for people living in the Hellenic diaspora. He will argue that a global Hellenism has come into existence today, one different from the configuration of identity in Greece. This transnational Hellenism, however, rather than being an exception in the Greek experience, shares the values, images and dreams of previous conceptions of Hellenism and Byzantium and antiquity.

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Dated Material

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SFSU Hellenic Students Organization Activities

Spring Semester, 1998 the **Hellenic Students Organization at SFSU** elected new officers of the organization. They include President **Dimitri Stamatis**, Vice-President **George Christakis**, Secretary **Georgia Adamopoulos**, Treasurer **John Zafiratos,** and newly added Public Relations Officer **Alex Mallas**. Membership has grown to 65 students. Faculty Advisor of the organization is **Professor Klironomos**. The organization invited **Steve Georgiou**, a Ph.D. candidate at U.C. Berkeley, on May 12, 1998, who presented a slide show presentation on the Greek island of Patmos. For more information about upcoming events or membership, please e-mail: dimitri@netwiz.net

The Center for Modern Greek Studies is interested in any suggestions you may have for *MANDATOPHOROS*. If you have any suggestions, please call us at (415) 338-1892. Thanks for caring.

Diaspora Lecture Series **continued from page 3.**

Professor Jusdanis is the author of two books, The Poetics of Cavafy: Textuality, Eroticism and History and Belated Modernity and Aesthetic Culture: Inventing National Literature, as well as a number of articles on the subject of the diaspora. Please join us for what promises to be a stimulating presentation and discussion on this timely topic.

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